

003660.P010
120303(AMC:elc)

Patent

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1-8, 10-16, 18-19 and 21-30 remain in the application. Claims 1, 10, 16, 19, 24-25 and 27-28 have been amended. Claims 9, 17 and 20 have been cancelled.

Examiner Interview

Applicant thanks the examiner for the courtesy of the examiner interview dated October 28, 2003, in which we reviewed Figures 3 and 4, and discussed the elements of claim 24 that are not disclosed in Luke (US Patent 6,131,087). Specifically, Applicant submits that the bid value as claimed, is not equivalent to the price value as disclosed in Luke. The price value as disclosed in Luke is just a single dimension of a geometric object and is not generated based upon a combination of attribute values. The generated bid value, as claimed, is a price that is based upon the combination of attribute values (e.g., based on a corresponding variance value relative to a nominal value). Luke does not disclose nor suggest that the price dimension may be based upon a combination of attribute values, as claimed.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully request the examiner enter this supplemental amendment in conjunction with the amendment filed on October 7, 2003, and respectfully submits that the rejections have been overcome by the amendments and remarks, and that the claims as amended are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the rejections be withdrawn and the claims as amended be allowed.

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If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666
for any fee deficiency that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 3, 2003



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